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Ph: 2496520 / 21 / 23 Fax: 2496530
E-mail: voice@starofmysore.com
ad@starofmysore.com

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City Offices: K.R. Circle Ph: 2431774
Devaraja Urs Road Ph: 2428695
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REDUCE YOUR RISK OF
CORONAVIRUS
INFECTION
Clean hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub
Cover nose and mouth when coughing with tissue or flexed elbow
Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms
SOUTHERN STAR
MYSURU

Tight vehicle screening at 5 Mysuru District borders

- COVID stickers pasted on vehicles; indelible seal stamped on symptomatic travellers
- Mandatory 14-day quarantine for outside State visitors; asymptomatic persons let off

Policemen enquiring the whereabouts of each vehicle on the Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway this morning. Picture right shows a COVID sticker with serial number being pasted on a vehicle that is travelling inside Mysuru and that will be inside the district.

Mysuru, May 6 (MTY&BCT)- Determined to take stringent measures against spread of Coronavirus infection even after the State Government decided to allow one-time, two-way inter-district passes to facilitate people stranded in other cities to return home, the Mysuru District Administration has intensified checking at its borders and has set up five check-posts.

Check-posts have been set up on Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway between Siddalingapura and Kalasthawadi, one check-post each at Bherya and Bettadapura near Periyapatna, at Mooguru near T. Narasipura and at Koppa near Kushalnagar. Apart from these check-posts, an exclusive health screening centre has been established at the Sathagalli KSRTC Depot where migrant workers, students and others stranded are brought to Mysuru from Bengaluru.

Each person screened

These check-posts have the mandate of screening each vehicle and each passenger and match the details with the inter-district pass issued by the Karnataka Police Department. Along with noting down vehicle details, temperature checking is carried out on each visitor and if there are symptoms — as tested by the health authorities at the check-posts — indelible seal is stamped on the upper palm of symptomatic persons and are advised 14-day quarantine at their respective homes. Asymptomatic persons are let off after pass verification and temperature screening.

At the Siddalingapura check-post, every individual travelling by vehicles is made to get down from the vehicle and undergo body temperature check with the help of thermometers and thermal scanners. Their inter-district passes are checked and matched with vehicle details.

(See VEHICLE on page 2)

Mysuru corona alert

- One patient discharged today
- Seven total active cases
- 1 person home-quarantined
- 90 total positive cases
- 83 cured so far

CM's Rs. 1,610 crore booster to revive sagging State economy

Excise duty on all brands of liquor hiked by 17 percent

B.S. Yediyurappa, CM

Bengaluru, May 6 (KMS & BCT)- In an attempt to revive the sagging economy of the State which was in distress due to onset of the COVID lockdown, Karnataka Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa announced a relief package worth over Rs. 1,610 crore. He was addressing a press conference from Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru this morning.

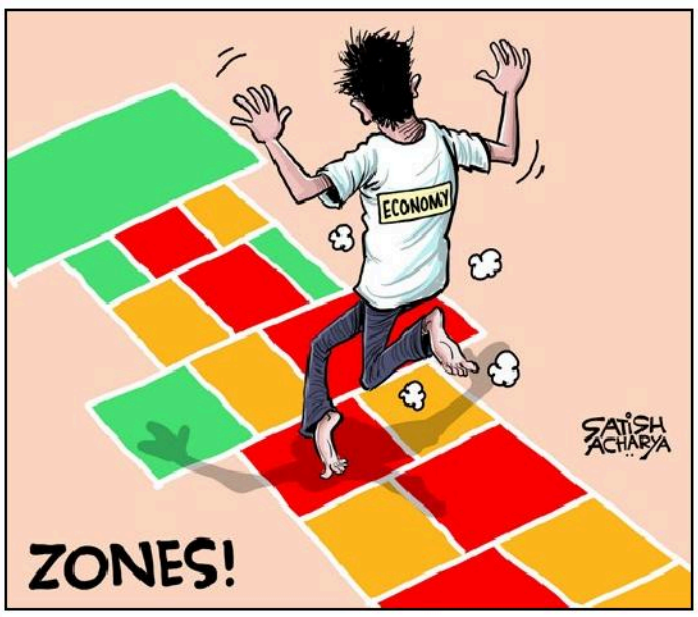
Notably the Government has hiked additional excise duty on all brands of liquor by 11 percent in addition to the 6 percent that was announced in the Budget. With today's increase, the total increase in excise duty on liquor stands at a steep 17 percent.

Money from liquor sales has been one of the biggest revenue generators for Karnataka that has helped fund developmental programmes in the State. The Government hopes to rake in an additional Rs. 3,500 crore to Rs. 5,000 crore from liquor sales from the average annual fiscal target of Rs. 20,000 crore to Rs. 23,000 crore.

The CM said that due to the onset of the COVID-19 and consequence of the clamping down of nationwide lockdown, people of all sections in the society had to endure a difficult time, including farmers, labourers, industrialists, service sector and others.

(See CM on page 2)

STAR PUNCH By Satish Acharya



Tight vehicle screening at 5 Mysuru District borders

Pic. 1: ***A Policeman recording the registration details of a vehilce on the Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway this morning.*** *Pic. 2:* ***A commuter being screened with a thermal scanner.*** *Pic. 3:* ***A Cop affixing COVID sticker on a vehicle asking the occupants to proceed towards health kiosk set up at GRS Fantasy Park.*** *Pic. 4:* ***Commuters line-up in front of counters at Siddalingapura check-post this mornng while Police note down their details.***

Pic. 5: ***People proceed towards health kiosk inside the GRS Amusement Park.***

Pic. 6: ***Health workers screen travellers at counters inside GRS Fantasy Park. Distancing is maintained at each counter.***

(Continued from page 1)

People staying in Mysuru

Those travelling from outside district and want to stay in Mysuru district have to provide their local Mysuru address, locality, phone numbers and a red COVID-19 sticker — with serial numbers and other details — is pasted on such vehicles and they have to undergo compulsory health screening at kiosks set up inside the parking lot and ticket counter of GRS Fantasy Park. Travellers who want to proceed to other districts are let off after checking their vehicle details and thermal screening.

At the kiosk near GRS Fantasy Park, doctors and health staff from Department of Health and Family Welfare record patient details and their health is screened. The visitor is provided a self-declaration form to fill his/her details.

Mysuru Deputy Commissioner Abhiram G. Sankar visited GRS Fantasy Park this afternoon and supervised the arrangements.

Temperature level

In case the person has a temperature above 37.5°C or is found to be suffering from cold, cough and breathlessness, he/she will be taken to a COVID-19 care centre for isolation and further medical examination. In case they have symptoms of COVID-19, a swab test will be drawn and the patient kept under quarantine till the results are out. If the test comes back positive, he/she will be shifted to the COVID-19 Hospital, and if it is negative, the person will be asked to remain in home quarantine for 14 days.

Mandatory seal for outstation visitors

As per Government order, no seal is put on the upper palm if the travel is within Karnataka and if they have no symptoms. But seal and 14-day quarantine is mandatory to all travellers from outside Karnataka such as Maharashtra, Kerala, Goa and Tamil Nadu even if they do not show symptoms.

Those who are advised 14-day quarantine are monitored through GPS tracking. Their mobile numbers are subjected to Geo-fencing and they cannot move out of their homes. If they go beyond 100 metres of their homes, officers tracking them will get an alert.

In all, 26 'Quarantine Watch-Up' teams have been formed in the district to keep track of quarantined persons. Officers from the level of Panchayat Development Officers, Officials from Mysuru City Corporation, Health and Family Welfare and ASHA workers are part of the teams who will keep round-the-clock vigil.

Pic. 7: ***A health worker screens the temperature of a traveller with a thermal scanner. The heath centre is set up inside GRS Fantasy Park in city.*** *Pic. 8:* ***Mysuru Deputy Commissioner Abhiram G. Sankar inspecting the counters at the amusement park this afternoon.*** *Pic. 9:* ***The DC seen interacting with staff manning the counters.***

Chief Minister's Rs. 1,610 crore booster to revive sagging State economy

(Continued from page 1)

In an attempt to boost the confidence of the working class and the farmers, Yediyurappa said that the State Government would compensate the farmers who had grown flowers, with Rs. 25,000 per hectare, and remit an additional Rs. 3,000 to construction workers through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

While promising to announce a separate relief package for the farmers, who had sustained losses due to growing of vegetables, the CM also announced a financial relief of Rs. 5,000 each to over 2,30,000 barbers and 60,000 washermen both in urban and rural areas.

He also announced a one-time financial assistance of Rs. 5,000 each to over 7,75,000 taxi and auto drivers. Stating that the lockdown has brought miseries for the weavers who are already suffering due to slow down of their units, he said that it was decided to waive off Rs. 109 crore loans availed from various financial institutions.

The CM announced a cash compensation of Rs. 2,000 to each of the weavers, in the State and funds would be transferred through DBT. More than 54,000 weavers would get benefit from the scheme "Weaver Samman Yojana." Appealing the construction workers not to leave the State, Yediyurappa said that the Government will transfer an additional Rs. 3,000 to each of the workers. The relief package included an incentive for the benefit of the electricity consumers, who had paid their bills.

It was also decided not to levy interest for the delayed payments of electricity consumers, he said. Monthly fixed charges in electricity bills of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises will be waived off for two months. Electricity bills for all consumers will not be cut till June 6 if the bills are not paid.

Resident Doctors continue protest on Day-2

Mysuru, May 6 (PM&BNR)- Resident Doctors (MD/ MS students), working at K.R., Cheluvamba and PKTB Hospitals, attached to Mysore Medical College and Research Institute (MMC&RI) and COVID Hospital, continued their protest on the second day today, seeking hike in stipend by sporting a black band around their arms and expressing support to the State-wide protest call given by Karnataka Association of Resident Doctors.

MMC&RI RDA (Resident Doctors Association) Vice-President Dr. D.N. Puneeth, speaking to *Star of Mysore* said that the twitter handle 'Office of Dr. K. Sudhakar' has posted this morning that the Government has responded to the demand of Resident Doctors and Medical Education Minister Dr. K. Sudhakar has asked officials concerned to submit a proposal in this regard. However, as there is no official information from the Government in this regard, as planned earlier, we are continuing our duty wearing black arm band. Future course of action will be decided by the Karnataka Association of Resident Doctors."

VOICE OF THE READER

MUDA budget must take care of pending projects also

Sir,

The MUDA has approved the current year's budget for so many new projects to come up including formation of several new layouts which is a good sign for development of Mysuru city.

At the same time, I would appeal to MUDA, while framing the budget and execution accordingly, to review the pending projects at the existing layouts also and provide sufficient funds for completion of the works for the welfare of the residents. For example: i) The works relating to Raja Kaluve upgradation to prevent rain water from entering into houses in Block Nos. 26 to 31 in SBM Colony, Srirampura; ii) The regularisation of SBM Park by acquiring remaining land presently occupied by the land losers (who have put up shops and letting them for rent) by payment of suitable compensation by calling them for discussion etc.

These efforts would pave way for more beautification of the layout. As the layout has already been handed over to MCC two years ago, it would be better for MUDA to complete the pending works without any further delay.

— K.V. Ramanath
Srirampura II Stage
30.4.2020

MLA Tanveer Sait donates Rs. 1 crore to CM's Relief Fund

Tanveer Sait

Mysuru, May 6 (RK&KS)- Narasimharaja Constituency MLA Tanveer Sait has donated Rs. 1crore to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund to be used for medical equipment used for treating patients, medicines and distribution of grocery to needy people. Sait has in a press release said that the Rs. 1 crore grant for the year 2020-21 towards the MLA Local Area Development Fund be deposited to the CM's Relief Fund.

Sait, after treatment abroad and in Bengaluru for the serious injuries he had sustained when a youth brutally attacked him with a machete at a wedding function in the city in November last, is hale and healthy and is on rest in Bengaluru.

Rajasthanis housed at Shelter Camps in city return to their residences in outskirts

After first batch of 29 members, remaining to return today

Mysuru, May 6 (RKB)- A total of 170 people, native of Rajasthan, were housed at Shelter Camps in city following nationwide lockdown.

Though they were not able to return to their native places, a time has come for these people to return to their residences in the district.

A total of 170 people including 23 women and 22 children, who were doing Mewad Ice Cream, Pani Puri and Bale Puri businesses at Mysuru and Chamarajanagar districts, were given shelter at CITB Choultry in Siddarthanagar here for the past 35 days, after all their business were halted soon after lockdown was imposed to contain spread of deadly pandemic.

On Mar.30, all these people were going towards Rajasthan in two lorries and were stopped by Maharashtra Police near Shahpur and had sent them back to Mysuru. When they returned to Mysuru on Apr.1, Alanahalli Police stopped them near Mysuru Ring Road and sent them to CITB Choultry for shelter. From then on, though they tried several times, District Administration had not given them any chance to return as per lockdown guidelines.

Though these Rajasthanis were unable to return to their native places, now with lockdown relaxation at some places and inter-district travel, they returned to the villages in the district they were residing in.

Following permission from the District Administration on Tuesday, a KSRTC bus was arranged to send a total of 29 people to their residences in Mysuru that included Rammanahalli, Shantinagar, Devegowda Circle and other layouts.

Others are expected to reach their residences in Mysuru and Chamarajanagar today.

Why was no limit fixed on number of guests at Nikhil's wedding, asks HC

"Purpose of lockdown lost"

Bengaluru, May 6 (UNI & Agencies)- The Karnataka High Court yesterday expressed displeasure over the blanket permission granted by the Ramanagara Deputy Commissioner without putting a cap on the number of invitees to the marriage of Nikhil Kumaraswamy, son of JD-S leader and former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, held on April 17, during the lockdown period.

The Court posed this question to the State Government while expressing surprise over the blanket permission granted by the DC on Apr. 16 without imposing any limit on the number of guests. The permission letter stated that those persons identified by a representative of Kumaraswamy could be allowed into the wedding venue.

A special Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Abhay Shreeniwas Oka and Justice B.V. Nagarathna made these observations during a video-conference hearing on PIL petitions. The Government had told the Court that between 80 and 95 people attended the ceremony.

"We are not concerned about only this marriage, prima facie the object of lockdown itself will be defeated if the policy of the State and Central Governments is that more than 50 persons could be permitted to attend a marriage," the Court said.

It directed the State and Centre to tell whether they are open for the District Magistrate to grant permission for gatherings irrespective of the number of persons attending, and that if this was the policy, the Government must allow more citizens to benefit and cannot extend it to only some individuals.

As the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs on Apr. 15 do not indicate the number of persons allowed to attend weddings, does it mean any number of persons could have been allowed to attend such functions prior to the May 1 guidelines, the Bench asked.

The Bench orally observed that at the very least, the State Government should have accepted that not restricting the number of attendees was a mistake. The Court adjourned further hearing on the matter till May 12 after directing the State Government to also submit information on the number of vehicle movement passes issued.

Sealdown relaxed at Someshwarapura near Mysuru

Mysuru, May 6 (RKB&BNR)- Someshwarapura (Sollepura), which is 12 kms from Mysuru city, was completely sealed down nearly 28 days ago along with Hebya village, where Corona positive cases were reported. Today, the sealdown was relaxed at the village and people, who were confined to their homes, were seen happily moving around. State General Secretary of Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) B.Y. Vijayendra had sent grocery kits to be distributed among 2,000 families of the village which was distributed by State BJP Secretary M. Rajendra this morning.

Each kit contained groceries, including 5 kg rice, dal, sugar, salt, washing and bathing soaps, sufficient for 10 days.

Varuna Constituency President Vijay Kumar, MyMUL Director Ashok, Taluk Panchayat Member Shekar, L.R. Mahadevaswamy of Vijayendra Abhimani Balaga and others were present on the occasion.

In this week's Pet Talk,
Maneka explains the procedure for adoption of a dog and also tells why dogs try to eat their puppies' navel off when they are born...

Pet Talk

Maneka Gandhi

What breed of dog is the best for depression?

All dogs help us to fight depression, anxiety and other mental disorders as well. A dog's love is consistent no matter what kind of dog you own.

More than any other animal, dogs have evolved to become extremely attuned to humans and our behaviour and emotions. While dogs can understand many of the words we use, they are even better at interpreting our tone of voice, body language, and gestures.

Petting a dog releases the feel-good hormones like serotonin, prolactin, and oxytocin, and lowers the stress hormone cortisol. According to Harvard Medical School, just petting a dog also reduces heart rate.

Dogs also encourage more exercise, which helps decrease blood pressure and risk of cardiovascular disease. A lower blood pressure and heart rate are associated with better mental health. The companionship of a pet can also ease loneliness, and most dogs are a great stimulus for healthy exercise, which can substantially boost your mood and ease depression.

Rather than purchasing a dog, think about adopting one from a shelter. This will make you feel happier to help an abandoned dog and get a great companion as well.

Many of these dogs are traumatised from abandonment issues or have suffered from abuse. By adopting these dogs both you and your dog can begin your journey towards healing together and be each other's support.

What is the procedure for adoption of a dog? Can I just take a dog from the street and keep it as a pet?

Yes, you can, and you should. The average life of a dog on the street is 3 years and 80% of all puppies die before they are 3 months old from cold, starvation or being run over. Get the dog vaccinated. If you are adopting a dog from the shelter then you will interact with an adoption team who will try and match you to the dog. Sometimes they try to match pets and homes as well so that the dog is not returned. Interested families undergo a house check which includes address verification and an assessment of the interaction of the dog with the family. After adoption, the team stays in touch to counsel and assist them with hiccups regarding adoption, if any.

Are there regular checks after adoption of a dog?

Yes. There are house checks post adoption to ensure that the pet is safe and comfortable. Some organisations ask you to click pictures of the pet every month and send it to them.

Can the adopted pet be returned?

Yes. If you are that small minded that you cannot give the dog time to adjust to new surroundings, or certain members of your family are vicious to the dog, then it is best to return him/ her to the shelter. If you throw the dog out of the house, he/she will die. The dog should not be abandoned in any way.

Why did my dog try to eat her puppies' navel off when they were born?

When the puppies are born, they are attached to the placenta by the umbilical cord. Usually the pup is born, the mother chews off the cord, and between 5-15 minutes later, the placenta is delivered. In a few situations, in which the pup would have bled to death, the mother may sever the cord too close to the body of the pup. She is acting on instinct at this point and has no intention of harming her pup but feels compelled to chew that cord.

In some situations, the pup is born, and the mother may be busy with littermates that preceded that pup. The cord is still attached to the puppy, which is attached to the placenta, which is still inside the mother. It is normal for the mother to eat the placenta which is packed full of nutrients. In some situations, in which mom is eating the placenta and moves up the cord to the pup.

Newborn pups are wet, basically inactive, silent little things attached to the placenta. They smell like placenta, and, until they are cleaned up and dried off, look like placenta. Mom is being absolutely flooded with hormones and instinctively wants to tidy up all indicators of birthing puppies because, in the wild, there are predators that would certainly take advantage of unattended neonate pups.

My pet seems to be in pain and isn't as active as he should be. What should I do?

First, talk to your veterinarian and have him examine your pet. Your pet might have arthritis. Older pets, especially large dogs, are vulnerable to arthritis and other joint diseases, and the signs you see can vary. This chart provides the basic signs you might see if your pet has arthritis; you might see one or more of these signs in your pet.

Signs of arthritis in pets: Favouring a limb; Difficulty in sitting or standing; Sleeping more; Seeming to have stiff or sore joints; Hesitancy to jump, run or climb stairs; Weight gain; Decreased activity or interest in play; Attitude or behaviour changes (including increased irritability); Being less alert.

Signs of arthritis often are similar to signs of normal aging, so if your pet seems to have any of these symptoms for more than two weeks, the best thing to do is to have your veterinarian examine them, and then advise you as to what treatment plan would be best to help your pet deal with the pain. Arthritis treatments for pets are similar to those for humans, and may include:

Healthy diet and exercise to help maintain proper weight. Working with your veterinarian to find a drug treatment that helps relieve the pain.

Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDS): The most common treatment for arthritis in dogs. These drugs are similar to ibuprofen, aspirin, and other human pain relievers. However, never give an NSAID for people (over-the-counter or prescription) to your pet unless instructed to do so by your veterinarian; some of these drugs (such as ibuprofen and acetaminophen) can be toxic for pets. Over-the-counter pet treatments, such as pills or food containing either glucosamine and chondroitin sulfate or Omega fatty acids. Both may help relieve the symptoms of arthritis in dogs.

A veterinarian-prescribed NSAID and an over-the-counter treatment that together may help decrease pain and disease progression.

Diets with special supplements may also help decrease the discomfort and increase the joint mobility.

To join the animal welfare movement contact
gandhim@*nic.in*
www.peopleforanimalsindia.org

PFA HELPLINE

Savitha Nagabhushan - 9845654429
DOGS, PUPPIES, CATS, KITTENS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION [Contact: Ph: 0821-2598213]
Timings: 8 am to 8 pm

SEND YOUR QUESTIONS

Readers with queries about their pets health, care and behavioural issues may send their questions to *SOM* : *voice@starofmysore.com*

Vijayendra Balaga distributes groceries to transgenders

State BJP Yuva Morcha General Secretary B.Y. Vijayendra Abhimani Balaga distributed grocery kits to transgenders as they too are affected with the continuation of lockdown. MyMUL Director S.C. Ashok distributed the kits near Gayathripuram Circle in city. Former Taluk Panchayat President L.R. Mahadevaswamy, women BJP leader Lakshmidevi, Anand, Prasanna, Nikhil, Jaswanth, Anil, Ashok, Satish, Aradikere Umesh, Harish and others were present.

COVID-19 casts dark shadow over Dasara-2020

By S.T. Ravikumar

Mysuru, May 6- An estimated 10 lakh people visit Mysuru every year during the 10-day State-sponsored Dasara extravaganza. However, this year, dark clouds of COVID-19 have cast over the celebrations.

With strict norms of social distancing here to stay at least till the pandemic is brought under complete control, stakeholders are wondering how to celebrate Nada Habba Dasara which is just five months away and where the success of celebrations solely depend on surging crowds to see the caparisoned elephants and tourist footfall at Dasara venues.

Mysuru's tourism revenues, employment and employability too depend much on Dasara and with no activity, stakeholders stare at bleak future. The State Government, on the other hand, has decided to wait till the end of May to take a decision in this regard.

A lot of foreign tourists too flock Mysuru during pre-Dasara and continue their stay till December. This year, there is uncertainty over the arrival of foreign tourists due to large-scale

Tourism Minister C.T. Ravi

deaths triggered by Coronavirus. COVID has already affected many international calendar events like Oktoberfest in Germany which has been cancelled for this year.

Also, there are doubts about cash-strapped and COVID-hit State Govt. releasing handsome funds for Dasara. It might ask for a scaled-down celebrations just to keep the tradition alive without allied events for entertainment and tourist attraction. Officials, however, are optimistic that the pandemic will be over by the time Dasara season kicks in.

The State Government had planned a grand Dasara-2020 and had chalked out schemes to launch Dasara publicity blitzkrieg in April this year, six months ahead of Dasara, to attract local, national and international tourists. Minister for Kannada, Culture and Tourism C.T. Ravi had conducted a meeting in Bengaluru where officials were told to carry out publicity campaigns six months in advance.

Advance publicity campaigns and the Government funding would give more time to officials to carry out Dasara development works instead of carrying them out in the last moment, the Minister had felt. But COVID has put cold water on the Minister's grandiose plans.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, Tourism Secretary Anil Kumar admitted that COVID has washed away the Government's early Dasara planning. "We have not lost hope. We can still meet in June — usually the Dasara meetings start in September — and hopefully, by then, the pandemic will be in our control. We need to set some standard operating procedure in place when it comes to social distancing for major events like Dasara," he said.

Anil Kumar said that meeting of Tourism Department is scheduled by the end of May to chalk out plans to revive the sector that has suffered major losses due to lack of international and domestic tourist movement. "We will discuss Dasara too then," he added.

Minister welcomes Centre's move to set up National Tourism Task Force

Hotel Mayura Hoysala on JLB Road that houses the Tourism Department Deputy Director's Office in city.

Mysuru, May 6 (RK&DM)- Karnataka Tourism Minister C.T. Ravi, who is now reportedly under self-quarantine at his native Chikkamagalur, has welcomed the Centre's decision to form a National Tourism Task Force (NTTF) in order to revive the tourism sector which has taken a severe beating due to the lockdown.

In a press release issued on his official letterhead on Apr.29, Ravi said that the NTTF comprises Tourism Ministers and Department Secretaries of all the States and representatives of all tourism stakeholders.

He said that he has forwarded the suggestions received by the stakeholders — like Hotel Industry, Tours and Travel Agents, Taxi Operators, Tourist Guides and Airline Booking Agents among others — during a meeting he had organised in the pre-lockdown period. Ravi said that many of the suggestions were concerned with promotion of cultural activities, festivals, exhibitions and adventure sports.

Noting that tourism sector contributes to 14.8 percent of Karnataka's total revenue, the Minister said that more than 35 lakh people of the State are directly or indirectly dependent on the tourism sector for their livelihood. He stated that the tourism industry provides ample opportunities for assets creation and employment. With the outbreak of COVID-19, the tourism sector has fallen flat, he added.

Stating that consumer mindset, safety, hygiene and such other factors play a key role in the promotion of tourism post-lockdown, Ravi said that marketing and promotion, skill development, safety and hygienic tagline, security, survival and revival, soft bank loans, working capital, tax reliefs, tax holidays and such other measures are key for rebooting the tourism sector.

Ravi also outlined that the State Tourism Department has received five important suggestions for the revival of the sector, which included sensitising the tourists on the severity of the pandemic, holding of local activities (post-lockdown) such as 'Nodu Baa Nammoora' (come and see our town), dining out within city, love your locale which is popular in Singapore, promotion of regional and inter-district tourism, preparing domestic tourists for national and regional tourism and attracting foreign tourists in a phased manner after ensuring their safety and wellness.

Ravi said that the other measures include effective usage of social media, launching 'Target Customer' initiative, enhancing consumer sentiment in respect of Karnataka, promotion of foreign business travel and wellness tourism.

Disciplinary action: IGP suspends Bettadapura SI

Mysuru, May 6 (RK&BCT)- Southern Range IGP Vipul Kumar has placed Bettadapura (Periyapatna) Sub-Inspector P. Lokesh under suspension and the order to this respect was issued yesterday. The IGP had received many complaints against the officer and following this he had ordered a probe.

Following complaints from farmers about illegal stone quarrying at Kesuvinakere Kolimane Survey Number 34, Dalit activist Annaiah and journalist H.D. Ramesh, in the month of February this year, had been to the quarry site to look into the issue and report the same to senior Police officers.

The illegal stone quarry activities were immediately reported to Circle Inspector Pradeep, who had sent Sub-Inspector Lokesh to the spot and asked him to submit a report and take action against quarry and stone crushers.

But Lokesh allegedly hid the facts and illegalities from his seniors and had in turn abused Annaiah and Ramesh questioning their credentials to report illegal activities. This led to arguments and heated exchange ensued between them and Lokesh alleged that Annaiah and Ramesh had come to the mining area to extort money from the crushing unit owners.

The officer, instead of putting an end to illegal quarrying, allegedly warned Annaiah and Ramesh that action would be taken against them if they venture into the mining area again. The scene was recorded by a Police Constable and was later circulated on social media and TV channels, blaming Annaiah and Ramesh.

P. Lokesh, SI

Meanwhile, Annaiah collected information about the illegal stone quarrying through his sources and had submitted a report with photographic evidence to the SP, Inspector General of Police (Southern Range-Mysuru) and the Office of Director General of Police (DGP) in Bengaluru.

Mysuru SP C.B. Ryshyanth ordered a probe and had sent sleuths from District Crime Investigation Bureau (DCIB) to covertly conduct an investigation into illegal mining and the role of Bettadapura SI Lokesh. The DCIB personnel submitted a report and the SP directed Bettadapura Police to book two cases against illegal mining.

Though action was not taken against Lokesh in this particular case, there were several complaints against him including the incident where lack of security measures resulted in unruly scenes from hundreds of people when Periyapatna former MLA distributed food kits to people recently.

Also there were complaints of Lokesh partying in Somwarpet, leaving his headquarters. The photos of him partying had reached his seniors. IGP Vipul Kumar had directed Hunsur Dy.SP Sunder Raj to investigate and submit a report.

Only goods vehicles permitted via Bavali route: SP Ryshyanth

Mysuru, May 6 (PM&KS)- Superintendent of Police (SP) C.B. Ryshyanth has stated that only goods vehicles are permitted to proceed to Kerala and enter Karnataka via Bavali route in H.D. Kote taluk.

Vehicles ferrying people (including two-wheelers) that are proceeding to Kerala should proceed via T. Narasipur, Santhemaralli, Chamarajanagar, Terakanambi and Gundlupet route. In the same way, passenger vehicles (including two-wheelers) coming from Kerala to Mysuru should proceed via Gundlupet, Terakanambi, Chamarajanagar and T. Narasipur route to enter Mysuru, the Superintendent of Police has stated in the press release.

Civil Services Prelims deferred

New Delhi, May 6- Taking into account the COVID-19 pandemic situation in the country, the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) on Monday deferred the Civil Services Preliminary exam scheduled for May 31, indefinitely.

The UPSC took the decision at a special meeting held in the National Capital yesterday after reviewing the situation following the end of the second phase of COVID lockdown. The Civil Services (Preliminary) exam-2020 was to take place on May 31.

13 TN native migrant labourers walk from Hassan to Mysuru

Request Mysuru Dy. Commissioner to help them reach back their homes

Migrant Labourers sitting in DC's office premises. Picture right shows former MLA M.K. Somashekar who arranged lunch for them.

Mysuru, May 6 (RKB&BNR)- A total of 13 migrant labourers, who were working at a coffee estate in Belur, have walked all their way from Hassan to Mysuru and have now approached the Deputy Commissioner to help them go back to their homes in Tamil Nadu. The group also has a one-and-a-half year old baby with them.

Native of Kollimalai, Namakkal in Tamil Nadu, these labourers, namely Anand, Arul, Chinnasamy, Allimuthu, Rajrndiran, Chinnapillai, Sudha, Chinnponnu, Shanti, Palaniyamma and others, regularly come to Belur during the coffee season and this time too, they had come to Belur four months back and were stranded as nation-wide lockdown was imposed since Mar.25.

They have managed to reach Hassan by local transport and early morning at 5 yesterday, they have left Hassan by walk to reach Mysuru today at around 10 am. They were also thermal screened at Hassan border. Now, they have approached the DC's office in Mysuru to help them go back to their houses in Tamil Nadu.

Learning about the presence of these migrant workers, former MLA M.K. Somashekar, who is involved in service initiatives throughout the lockdown period, visited DC's office and arranged lunch for them. He also handed over them Rs.10,000 in cash and informed Labour Department officials to take care of these people.

Assistant Labour Commissioner A.C. Thammanna and Labour Officer Manjuladevi, met them and have decided to shift them to Hoysala Kannada Sangha premises for shelter. As it is a matter of inter-State travel, nothing has been decided as yet on sending them back to their homes, sources said.

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Man injured after steering vehicle into paddy field in Nanjangud

Nanjangud, May 6 (RK&KS)- A 29-year-old man suffered injuries after losing control of his van and driving into a paddy field on May 4 evening.

The injured is Yogesh, a resident of Hullahalli in Nanjangud.

Yogesh was proceeding on Hullahalli-Nanjangud Road in his Maruti Omni Van and when he neared Debur Lake, he lost control of the car while negotiating a curve and steered the van into the nearby paddy field resulting in him suffering injuries.

Nanjangud Traffic Police, who rushed to the spot, got the car removed from the paddy field and shifted Yogesh to a private hospital in Mysuru besides seizing the car and registering a case.

COVID - 19 UPDATE

MYSURU

Persons observed till date	:	4,762
Persons who have completed 14 days' isolation	:	4,754
Persons isolated in home for 14 days	:	1
Persons isolated in hospital for active cases	:	7
Total samples tested	:	4,667
Samples found negative	:	4,677
Samples found positive (cumulative)	:	90
Persons cured / discharged	:	83
Death toll so far in Mysuru	:	0

MANDYA

Total positive cases in Mandya	:	28
Persons cured / discharged	:	11
Death toll so far in Mandya	:	0

KARNATAKA & INDIA

Total positive cases in Karnataka	:	693
Persons cured / discharged	:	354
Death toll so far in Karnataka	:	29
Total active cases in India	:	33,514
Persons cured / discharged	:	14,182
Death toll so far in India	:	1,694

(Note: Figures till 5 pm)

COVID-19 District Emergency Control Room

The Mysuru District Emergency Control Room for COVID-19 (Coronavirus) is functional 24x7 and has a team of operators and medical professionals who are working in shifts. All related queries will be handled professionally and necessary guidance will be provided to all callers, according to Mysuru DC.

Mysuru Helpline numbers
1077 or 0821-2423800
Karnataka Helpline number: 104
Central Helpline number:
011-23978046
Email: ncov2019@gmail.com

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